



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



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30 August 2001

## **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2001/23**

### **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF LEPTOSPIROSIS**

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) advises stakeholders of minor implications for quarantine policy arising from the completion of a scientific review of leptospirosis.

Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum 2000/30 of 14 June 2000 advised the release of, and sought public comment on, a draft review of scientific information on leptospirosis.

Comments were received from three stakeholders. These comments and our response to these comments are attached. Biosecurity Australia acknowledges with appreciation these considered contributions which assist in ensuring the review is comprehensive and based on current science.

Animal Biosecurity intends to maintain the “*Scientific review of leptospirosis*” as a working document, revising and adding to the review as new information becomes available. The current version of the review may be obtained from the Biosecurity Australia contact officer (details below), or downloaded from the Biosecurity Australia section of the AFFA website: <http://www.affa.gov.au>. Files may be downloaded in either Microsoft® Word 97 or Adobe® PDF format.

A precis of the review, which summarised the background, aim, scope and results of the draft review was provided with AQPM 2000/30. The precis was useful during initial development of the review, by highlighting the main elements of the vast body of information contained in the actual review. The precis has served its purpose and it is no longer feasible to maintain an up-dated precis as well as a review document. Consequently, the original precis has not been modified to reflect stakeholder comments and other changes to the review.

The review provides information on *Leptospira interrogans*.var. *canicola* which will be taken into account in the import risk analysis (IRA) of dogs and cats. Work is underway on the technical issues paper for this IRA which is scheduled for release in the near future.

Current quarantine policy for other domestic species, laboratory rodents, livestock and their genetic products does not include risk management measures for leptospirosis. The review supports maintenance of this policy.



Centenary of Federation

Edmund Barton Building  
Barton ACT  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
ph +61 2 6272 3933  
fax +61 2 6272 5161  
[www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au)

ABN 24 113 085 695

## **Next Steps**

We would be grateful if you would pass details of this notice to other interested parties, who should advise the contact officer if they wish to be included in future communications on this matter. Inquiries should be directed to the officer whose contact details appear below.

## **Confidentiality**

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

DAVID BANKS  
General Manager  
Animal Biosecurity

Contact Officer:	Warren Vant
E-mail:	Warren.Vant@affa.gov.au
Telephone no:	(02) 6272 4436
Facsimile no:	(02) 6272 3399